



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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## DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING FIELD VISIT FORM

**Date:** May 18, 2000

**Time:** 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

**DOGM Staff:** Paul Baker and Robert Davidson

**Other Attendees:** Mike Davis

**Re:** Substations # 1 and # 2, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, SUFCO Mine, ACT/041/002, Internal File

**Purpose:**

To look at the reclaimed Link Canyon No. 1 Substation and at the new No. 2 Substation

**Observations:**

I was impressed the reclaimed area matches the surrounding area very closely. There are numerous rocks and branches on the surface, and there are two large pinyons between the road and the substation. The trees hide the area very well, and the rocks make it blend nicely with adjacent areas. The regraded area is difficult to see unless a person knows it is there.

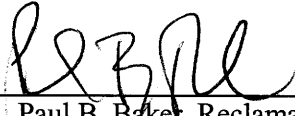
The No. 1 Substation was seeded recently, but I have some concerns about seeding this time of year. Normally, seeding would be done in the fall, and it is unlikely anything will germinate before at least August. However, there are few weeds in the area, so I don't believe weeds will be a problem. If necessary, it should be possible to seed again next year.

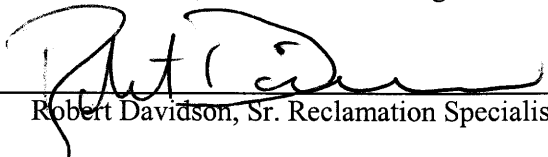
At this site, the topsoil was preserved under some of the fill material. The topsoil was sidecast, marker strips were placed on the soil, then fill was put on the soil. It will be interesting to see how well this procedure works, and it should provide insight into how well a similar soil protection strategy will work at West Ridge.

The new substation is not yet operational, but it looks ready. Topsoil that was salvaged in April is now surrounded by a berm. The operator has not yet surveyed it to see how much was salvaged.

**Recommendations/Conclusions:**

We need to carefully watch vegetation establishment on the No. 1 Substation to see if reseeding is necessary. We also need to see whether the unique topsoil protection measures are successful.

Signature:  on June 6, 2000  
Paul B. Baker, Reclamation Biologist

Signature:  on June 6, 2000  
Robert Davidson, Sr. Reclamation Specialist